

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Initially, applicants note an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed with the original application papers on May 31, 2001. Applicants request confirmation of consideration of the references cited therein. Applicants request that the Form PTO-1449 submitted with that IDS be provided to Applicants and initialed indicating consideration of the references therein. For convenience a copy of the previously filed IDS and the date-stamped filing receipt indicating its filing is provided herewith.

Applicant and applicants' representative also wish to thank Examiner Wood for the discussion in the above-identified application held with applicants' representative on August 25, 2005. During that discussion, amendments to certain of the claims were discussed to clarify features recited therein to address the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101. The present response sets forth the amendments to claims 1, 8, 17, and 18 discussed with Examiner Wood, which Examiner Wood tentatively indicated appear to address the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

In further detail, claims 1, 3-10 and 12-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter.

With respect to each of independent claims 1 and 8, those claims are amended by the present response to now recite a "computer implemented" log comparison debug support system. That subject matter is fully supported by the original specification at page 1, lines 11-15 as a non-limiting example.

Applicants respectfully submit such amendments to claims 1 and 8 address the rejections thereto under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Specifically, those claims were rejected as not being "tangible". Applicants respectfully submit the recited "computer implemented log

comparison debug support system" as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 8, and the claims dependent therefrom, is clearly tangible.

With respect to independent method claims 17 and 18, those claims are similarly amended by the present response to now be directed to a "computer implemented" method for supporting log comparison debugging. Thus, claims 17 and 18 are also believed to be clearly directed to concrete, useful, and tangible statutory subject matter.

With respect to claims 19 and 20, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of those claims as those claims are directed to "computer program product configured to store program instructions". Such features are believed to clearly be a tangible product that can store program instructions. As discussed with Examiner Wood, claims 19 and 20 are believed to already recite a tangible statutory class of subject matter. Examiner Wood tentatively agreed that the rejection of claims 19 and 20 will be withdrawn.

In view of the presently submitted claim amendments and foregoing comments Applicants respectfully submit each of the claims as currently written is directed to statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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